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Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Second Ave.

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

Williams And Pifer Lumber Co.

In 1917 was incorporated and L. H. Williams was Pres. and Gen mgr.
A. C. Pifer Vice Pres. and Dr. M. S. Wilson Sec, and Treas, all of Marlinton. W.
Va.

Their operations have been all over Pocahontas County and part of
Greenbrier as they operated in 1917 on Spring Creek in Greenbrier Co. this
was sawed by J. L. Howard of Buckeye. and in 1920 they were operating on Lau-
rel Creek. 1917 on Elk . and in 1920 on Brushy Mt. Cummins Creek. Beaver Creek
and until 1926 they were operating in the Huntersville District but in 1929
they bought two tracts of timber from F. P. Clark totaling 810 acres and in
1930 they bought a boundary of 60 acres of the John Gay est. on Bucks Run and
in 1931 they bought a tract of 158 acres on the Dry Fork of Stony Creek
from William D and Jessie Burgess of Laurel Creek. and since that time they
have had their circular mill set in the upper part of the town of Marlinton
and buying and trucking logs where ever they can buy any in connection with
this mill they run a planer and sell building material already surfaced and
ready for use.

When they were operating at capacity they used from 6 to 8 teams of
horses to do the skidding had a log engine and 4 or 5 log trucks when they were
operating on Laurel Creek and used from 3 to 4 trucks to haul lumber and logs.

Bert Roberts was their sawyer for quite a long time, and Alva Johnson
is the present lumber grader and has been for several years.

Besides their lumbering operations they have a large store, in which
they have their office, a general store a meat market with an experienced meat
cutter in Clarence Jordan Ward Wimer store man assisted by hired help and bes-
ides this they distribute Conoco gasoline and oil in Pocahontas and Randolph
County. this business was all built up from their lumbering operations of the
last 24 years.

Information. James Forney. Marlinton. W. Va .

Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va.

Feb. 23, 1940

Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Second Ave.
Marlinton, W. Va.

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Recollections

Chapter 4- Section 4- Part a

The first saw mill in the Greenbank Community was owned and operated by the pioneer Wooddells; Probably Joseph Wooddell, the Revolutionary War veteran, that settled on the lands of Thomas Cartmill and Abraham Ingram. Cartmill conveyed his land to Abraham Ingram on June 13, 1798 and Ingram conveyed to Wooddell about 1800. Ingram may have developed the water power for this mill. The lumber that finished the old colonial mansion house of Jacob Warwick at Clover Lick was sawed on this mill and was furnished by Mr. Wooddell about one hundred and twenty-five years ago. A tilt hammer was installed at this mill which was greatly needed by the pioneers in making tools and implements of iron and steel. This machine was used in drawing out and flanning large iron and steel for making wagon tires, horse shoes, shovel plows, bolts, nails and shaping out heavy iron work. Mr. R. W. Brown, who gave me the information on these first mills, thinks it very doubtful whether the people who now live in the town of Greenbank know that a machine of this kind, called the Tilt Hammer, was operated in this town. The sight of the old mill and tilt hammer is on the land of Henry Wooddell; the pit and embankments may be seen on the west side of the road between Martin Sutton's blacksmith shop and Henry Wooddell's house. The old mill race is now used for the county road. This mill was a great labor saver for the community and had its niche in the early development of the community.

Harmon Conrad of Frederick County, Maryland, purchased the William Taylor Grant from John Brown on August 3, 1799, and began to harness the water power of North Fork which was called Cartmills Creek at that time. His son, Solomon Conrad, who was a veteran of the War of 1812, after going through the war and being honorably discharged, took charge of the home place. About 1840, he built and operated an up and down saw mill until the close of the Civil War. In connection with the saw mill he had a dry kiln, and always had some of the very best white pine lumber to sell. In that day no log was sawed into lumber unless it was the very best. This mill was a great benefit in the development and advancement of the Greenbank community. The old mill site and the Solomon Conrad homestead, has been the home of O. L. Orndorff, a grandson, who in 1893 employed Robert J. Burns to reroof and weatherboard the old home; and Newton Ervin and Warwick Hudson to rebuild the chimneys. This is the oldest house in the Greenbank Community, having stood one hundred and fifteen years or more. It is on colonial style, with its massive chimneys, old time fire places, and spacious mantels. It is in a fine state of preservation and has the appearance of standing another century.

Along about the year of 1825 Or 1830, John Yeager had erected a saw mill on Block run, a branch of North Fork, and built a dam across the run with rocks, which was a complete piece of masonry; the wall was about thirteen feet high and about two hundred feet long; the inside was

filled with clay and dirt at an angle of about one to one and a half. When the dam was full of water, it covered about an acre of ground. The venerable John E. Gum, when a young man, worked for Mr. Yeager and sawed lumber on his mill. He said that the dam was full of mountain trout, and that he would start the mill to sawing, then he would catch trout for ten or fifteen minutes until the mill had run the line; during the day he would catch a basket of fish and keep the mill running at the same time. This old mill site is about two miles from the Yeager Homestead and the Allegheny Battlefield, on the Block Run. The Yeager mill dam blocked the run; hence the name "Block Run". The North Fork Lumber Company in building their railroad tore down part of the wall to make room for their track. The line of the Monongahela National Forest passes through the old mill dam. This mill was a great help to the settlers on the top of the Allegheny Mountain. The finish lumber for the old log church on the Allegheny Mountain was sawed on this mill.

The first timber cut for export was cut just before the Civil War at Cass by James Atlee Price. This was sent down to Marlinton and sawed on an up and down saw mill about one half mile above Marlinton where Riverside now is.

The North found out during the Civil War about the white pine in the Greenbrier Valley. Colonel Cecil Clay of New York, a friend of the Roosevelt family, came back to see about it. In 1876 he had cut and floated to